

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **5 October 2006**, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-33. Claims 1-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ramanathan (USPN 6,948,060, hereinafter “Ramanathan”).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Independent claims 1, 12, and 23 were rejected as being anticipated by Ramanathan. Applicant respectfully points out that Ramanathan teaches **monitoring** encrypted communications on a network (see Ramanathan, Abstract, col. 2, lines 34-48, and col. 3, lines 1-7).

In contrast, the present invention provides techniques for securely **controlling** communications between a first component and a second component (see FIG. 5 and paragraphs [0041]-[0052] of the instant application). This is beneficial because securely controlling communications allows components to interact with other under control of the security system. There is nothing within Ramanathan, either explicit or implicit, which suggests securely controlling communications between a first component and a second component.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 12, and 23 to clarify that the present invention provides techniques for securely controlling communications between a first component and a second component. These amendments find support in FIG. 5 and in paragraphs [0041]-[0052] of the instant application. Dependent claims 6, 17, and 28 have been canceled without prejudice. Dependent claims 7, 18, and 29 have been amended to correct antecedent basis.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 12, and 23 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-5 and 7-11, which depend upon claim 1, claims 13-16 and 18-22, which depend upon claim 12, and claims 24-27 and 29-33, which

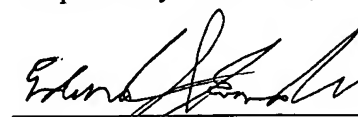
depend upon claim 23, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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